

ABSTRACT

An image processing apparatus for  
compositing multiple component images into a  
composite image is proposed. The image processing  
5 apparatus includes: a separating unit that separates  
a codestream corresponding to each one of the  
component images into a header portion and a data  
portion; a header processing unit that edits the  
separated header portion; and a codestream generation  
10 unit that generates a codestream corresponding to the  
composite image by combining the edited headers and  
the separated data portions. Each component  
codestream is generated by dividing the corresponding  
one of the component images into one or more  
15 rectangular regions, transforming pixel values of the  
divided one or more rectangular regions with discrete  
wavelet transform into transform coefficients, and  
compressing the transform coefficients.